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OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



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NOV 25 1981

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Mr. Richard D. Martin Treasurer Finance Department City of Birmingham 205 City Hall Birmingham, AL 35203

> Municipalities -- Retirement Systems -- County Employees --Conflict of Interest

There is no statutory conflict of interest generally when the City Attorney or his assistants represent the Board of Managers of the General Retirement and Relief System

Dear Mr. Martin:

The opinion request of the General Retirement and Relief System of the City of Birmingham has been received in the Office of the Attorney General. Your request presents the following question:

> Does a conflict of interests arise when the City Attorney of the City of Birmingham (or one of his assistants) represents and/or advises the Board of Managers of the General Retirement and Relief System of the City of Birmingham on legal matters?

Mr. Richard D. Martin Page Two

We have reviewed those statutes under which a municipal conflict of interest might arise and find none applicable to your general question as presented.

It is, therefore, the opinion of this office that there is no statutory conflict of interest generally when the City Attorney of the City of Birmingham or one of his assistants represents and/or advises the Board of Managers of the General Retirement and Relief System of the City of Birmingham on legal matters.

It is noted that you have received an advisory opinion on this matter from the State Ethics Commission. You may wish to consult the Alabama State Bar. In addition, there could be a specific set of facts under which the interests of each "client" could conflict, but such a determination would have to be made on a case by case basis.

I do hope that this response fully answers your question. If, however, we may be of further service, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely yours,

CHARLES A. GRADDICK Attorney General By--

CAROL JEAN SMITH

Assistant Attorney General

CJS:es